

WORLD

EUROPE & EURASIA

GALLERY

DENMARK

American Fulbrighters Celebrate Thanksgiving 2007



U.S. Ambassador James P. Cain (standing at center) speaks at a Fulbright reception held before Thanksgiving Dinner.

U.S. Ambassador James P. Cain welcomed Denmark's distinguished American Fulbright scholars and graduate students to the American Embassy for a reception followed by Thanksgiving Dinner in the Diplomat Restaurant. Also attending the event were representatives of the Danish host institutions, the staff and members of the Board of Directors of the Danish-American Fulbright Commission, staff from the Embassy's Public Affairs Office, and spouses of the guests. Each year American Fulbrighters gather together for this event that starts with an afternoon meeting in which Fulbrighters present their accomplishments in Denmark to one another and discuss cultural differences and community outreach projects.

FINLAND

Artist and Fulbright Alumna Inspired by Experience in Finland

Artist and printmaker Sabra Heath Booth was a Fulbright Scholar to Finland in the Fall of 2007. During her grant period, she held an artistic residency hosted by the Nelimarkka Museo in Alajärvi, an area in the center of Finland's lake district. For "The Sampo Project," she researched "the contemporary design aesthetics of Finland and the ways that nature and folklore have acted as a means of inspiration." Booth exhibited some of her works taking mushrooms (*sieni*) as the theme at the Fulbright Center in Helsinki. Upon her return to the United States, Booth had a solo gallery opening of her Finnish work from January through March 2008, entitled *Twilight's Edge*, at the Southwest School of Art and Craft in her hometown of San Antonio, Texas. She said of her Fulbright experience, "Overall, I anticipated a quiet immersion in the landscape of Finland having a profound impact on my work." She also gave a public lecture at Artpace in San Antonio about her experiences in Finland.



Sabra Heath Booth

Photo by: Fulbright Center, Finland

GERMANY

54th Annual Fulbright Berlin Seminar Held

The 54th annual Fulbright Berlin Seminar in April 2008 brought together 350 American Fulbright grantees. Also in attendance were 80 American Fulbrighters from 18 other European countries. The panels and working groups led to an intensive exchange of ideas among the grantees and speakers on various topics, such as Germany as a global player, the impact of the American presidential election and climate change as a global challenge. Other seminar highlights included the opening ceremony in the famous *Haus der Kulturen der Wel*, the reception at the *Rotes Rathaus* with Governing Mayor of Berlin Klaus Wowereit, and a Music Gala performance by Fulbright grantees.



2007-2008 U.S. Fulbright grantees in Berlin at the reception with Governing Mayor of Berlin Klaus Wowereit (center rear) and Executive Director of the German-American Fulbright Commission Dr. Rolf Hoffman (far left).

Fulbright Scholar Shares His Experience in Germany

Dr. Chuck Johanningsmeier, 2006-2007 U.S. Fulbright Scholar to the University of Leipzig, whose family (photo right) accompanied him to Germany, recalls that "...it is very, very difficult to convey the great changes inside of me that came as a result of my Fulbright experience...How do I tell those who have never lived outside the U.S. how it feels to have arrived in Germany knowing perhaps 50 words of the language, and then to have successfully achieved a full, rich, personal and professional life there?...All of these accomplishments gave me much greater confidence in my ability to tackle new challenges and succeed at them." Dr. Johanningsmeier is a Professor of English at the University of Nebraska in Omaha.



Johanningsmeier family

AUSTRIA

Reception for Fulbrighters Held at Ambassador's Residence in Austria



In November 2007, then-U.S. Ambassador to Austria and Honorary Co-Chair of the Austrian-American Educational Commission (AAEC) Susan McCaw hosted a reception at her official residence for "homecoming" Austrian Fulbright grantees who had completed their courses of study in the United States in the past year, U.S. Fulbright grantees who had spent the academic year in Austria, AAEC Board members and staff, institutional partners of the AAEC, and friends and associates of the Fulbright Program.

From left to right: U.S. Student to Austria Maya Mascarinec, Executive Director of the Austrian-American Educational Commission Dr. Lonnie Johnson and then-U.S. Ambassador to Austria Susan McCaw.



GREECE

Fulbrighter Showcases “One Year on Kythera”

An exhibition showcasing the photographic works of 2004-2005 U.S. Fulbright Student Kristina Williamson was held at the Consulate General of Greece in New York in November 2007. Entitled “One Year on Kythera,” the exhibition (samples shown at right) highlighted a selection of photographs taken by Williamson on the Greek island. The exhibit is a contemporary look into the lives of those who have chosen to remain on Kythera, which has experienced massive waves of emigration, and those now discovering Kythera as their new home. The exhibit’s opening reception included both Fulbright alumni and current grantees. Also in attendance were several individuals who themselves or whose family members had emigrated from Kythera to the United States. Williamson is a 2002 graduate of the Parsons School of Design in New York.

Photos by: Kristina Williamson



Fulbright Specialist Helps to Make a Difference



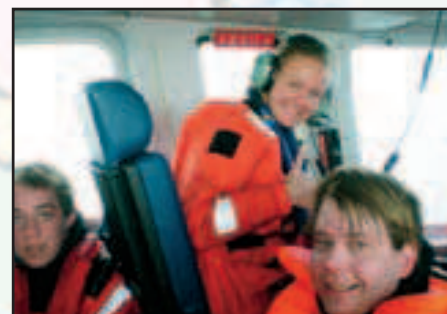
Dr. Barbara Morehouse at the 11th Century Nea Moni Monastery on the Greek Island of Chios, where a very large fire a decade ago burned down to the edge of the property and stopped.

In December 2007, Fulbright alumna Dr. Barbara Morehouse was invited to Greece to participate in a field trip and workshop hosted by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation. Its goal was to identify ways the Foundation might contribute to efforts to restore the landscapes and communities devastated by the summer 2007 wildfires in Greece, and to improve upon fire management so that similar disasters do not occur in the future. Deputy Director and Associate Research Professor at The University of Arizona’s Institute for the Study of Planet Earth, and a human geographer by training, Morehouse studied wildfire management on three Greek islands as a Fulbright Scholar in 2004. Morehouse later returned to the University of the Aegean under a Fulbright Specialist grant for further research and interactions with colleagues and students.

SWEDEN

Coast Guard Graduate Studies in Sweden

Ensign Kirsten Ambors’ Fulbright Student grant to Sweden focused on earning a Master’s degree in Mathematical Modeling and Simulation. She examined the search-and-rescue model employed by Sweden compared to the United States in hopes of finding a better way to assist those missing or in distress. Ambors graduated with high honors in 2007 from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, where she double majored in Operational Research and Computer Analysis and Electrical Engineering.



USCG Photo by: PA3 Annie R. Berlin

ENS Kirsten Ambors (center) on a Swedish search-and-rescue helicopter.



Afonso Miguel Das Neves Cavaco

PORTUGAL

Fulbright Scholar at Johns Hopkins University Shares Thoughts on Fulbright

Afonso Miguel Das Neves Cavaco of Portugal's Universidade de Lisboa was a Fulbright Scholar at Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health for three months in 2007. He said, "It is my advice to anyone who has the chance to pursue a Fulbright fellowship to do so, being sure that its unquestionable value will provide significant professional and personal outcomes in the near future."

Fulbright Brainstorms 2007 Focuses on Pandemics, Vaccines and New Paradigms in Public Health

In November 2007, the U.S.-Portugal Fulbright Commission organized the 5th Fulbright Brainstorms Conference in Lisbon. The 2007 theme was "Pandemics, Vaccines and New Paradigms in Public Health." The conference attracted an audience of 140 people, including distinguished professors and researchers, medical doctors, health care professionals, government representatives in the area of public health policy, along with students and journalists. According to the Fulbright Commission's Executive Director, Otilia Macedo Reis, the conference was an opportunity for public discussion of relevant issues on global public health through exchange and dialogue with some of the world's leading experts in these areas, under the aegis of the Luso-American (Fulbright) Educational Commission.



Ms. Otilia Macedo Reis, Executive Director of the U.S.-Portugal Fulbright Commission (pictured at center), with Fulbright Brainstorm speakers and organizers.

TURKEY

Fulbright Professor and Architect Inspires Turkish Students

Tarik Orgen, 2008 U.S. Fulbright Scholar to Turkey and professor at Auburn University's School of Architecture, spoke to architecture students at Mersin and Cukurova Universities about "Rural Studio," a program at Auburn's School of Architecture. The program utilizes recyclable materials and workable solutions to build new communities according to those communities' needs and cultures. He also took part in a dialogue with members of the Chamber of Architects, an institution in charge of registering professional architects in Turkey.



Professor Tarik Orgen speaks to architecture students at Mersin University.



A photograph of two men in an olive grove. In the foreground, a man wearing a dark beanie and a red and black plaid shirt is carrying a large, dense bundle of olive branches. In the background, another man is visible, working on a tree. The setting is a hilly landscape with olive trees and a clear sky.

ITALY

U.S. Fulbright Student Matthew Pavone helps a Tuscan biological farmer (pictured in background) prepare olive trees for the fall 2008 harvest in Italy. "As part of my research on the economic relationship between banks and farmers in the Mezzogiorno, I subdivide my activities into three groups: structured interviews with professionals and academics, field work with farmers such as Walter, and basic statistical modeling on interest rates and output. In my time so far, I have found the Fulbright experience largely fulfilling in spite of the living constraints that often accompany life in the South. If ever I drew upon my resourcefulness in the past, I have surely done so now more than ever, finding contacts in less than conspicuous places and pushing these leads to their full potential as I navigate a niche field of research..." Pavone conducted research at the University of Basilicata in Potenza, Italy. He graduated in 2007 from Fordham University with a Master's degree in international political economy and development.

ITALY

Fulbright Promoting Food Culture



Italian countryside

Along with its lovely landscapes, cobblestone streets, history, and beautiful art and architecture, Italy will always be known for the quality and taste of its food. In recent years, the U.S.-Italy Fulbright Commission has contributed to promoting the study of food culture in both Italy and the United States. In academic year 2007-2008, Italian Fulbrighter Carlo Baggi, a graduate of the Università di Scienze Gastronomiche (University of Gastronomic Sciences) and a member of the Slow Food Movement, taught eco-gastronomy at the Culinary Institute of the Chattahoochee Technical College in Marietta, Georgia under the Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence program. In the same academic year, U.S. Fulbright Grantee Katharine Millonzi attended the Masters program in Food Culture at the University of Gastronomic Sciences. Millonzi holds a Bachelor's degree in development

studies and social anthropology from the University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies in the United Kingdom. A Fulbright U.S. Student award jointly funded by the Fulbright Commission and the Casten Family Foundation will allow other U.S. graduate students to participate in the Masters Program at the university.

Fulbrighter Studies Painting and Printmaking in Pompeii

U.S. Fulbright Student in Painting and Printmaking from the University of Washington, Aitana de la Jara, studied and drew body casts in Pompeii, Italy during her Fulbright 2007-2008 award. De la Jara carried out research at the Archaeological Agency of Pompeii and the National Archaeological Museum at Naples.



Aitana de la Jara

UNITED KINGDOM

Teacher Exchange Program Alumna Returns as Volunteer Teacher-in-Residence



Joanne Beckles

Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program alumna Joanne Beckles (pictured left) of the United Kingdom spent summer 2007 as a volunteer Teacher-in-Residence to the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program. This is a new program component to encourage alumni to bring their expertise gained on their exchanges back to the Program. She also advised U.S. teachers going on exchanges to the United Kingdom at the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Orientation held in August 2007. Beckles, who teaches at the St. Paul's & All Hallows Junior School in London, taught at the King Springs Elementary School in Smyrna, Georgia, in 2003, and wrote special program material for U.S. grantees describing her country's national curriculum requirements.



CYPRUS

Fulbright Alumnus Co-Founds Cultural Center in Cyprus

Cypriot Costas Cacoyannis holds diplomas in piano, flute, violin and teaching and has a degree in Electrical Engineering. As the recipient of a Fulbright Visiting Student grant, Cacoyannis studied theory and composition at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. He graduated with a Master's degree in music in 1992. From 1994 to 1998, he was the Musical Director of the DIASTASIS Cultural Association in Cyprus. Costas has composed the music for many ballet, theatrical, television and cinema productions in Cyprus and abroad. His music has been performed in major theaters and music halls around the world such as the Chicago Town Hall, the Kremlin Palace, the Acropolis Herodion amphitheater, the Bloomsbury and Her Majesty's in London's West End, the "Haus der Kulturen" in Germany and the Megaro Mousikis in Athens. In 2007, Cacoyannis co-founded "Parakentro," a non-profit cultural center and publishing company in Cyprus, featuring a recording studio, an exhibition hall, a performance stage and rooms for artists/poets/musicians to reside as guests. He also has directed a series of documentary films, music videos and video poetry.



Costas Cacoyannis



Angela Aristidou

Fulbrighter from Cyprus Selected for NASA Internship and Assistantship

Angela Aristidou, a 2007-2008 Fulbright Visiting Master's degree student in education at Harvard's Institute for Theory and Computation (ITC) from Cyprus, was selected for an internship with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The internship involved creating an interactive multimedia program to assist astronauts in preventing, detecting, assessing and managing their own psychosocial problems on long-duration space missions. As part of an assistantship at the NASA Biomedical Research Institute, Aristidou will create a documentary for the training of astronauts with simulations and other multimedia and their educational value.



From left to right: U.S. Ambassador Thomas C. Foley; Irish Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs Éamon Ó Cuív, T.D.; and, Irish Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant alumnus Aibhistín Ó Coimín (Wesley College, 2006-2007).

IRELAND

Irish Language Fulbright Awards Program Expanded

The Fulbright Program in Ireland expanded its Irish Language Awards through a three-year funding commitment from Ireland's Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and the National Lottery. Wesley College in Dublin was the location of the first launch in January 2008. U.S. Ambassador Thomas C. Foley and Irish Minister Éamon Ó Cuív, T.D. of the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs announced the expanded program. Lehman College City University of New York, home to the Institute for Irish American Studies, was the location of the second launch in April 2008.

RUSSIA

Fulbright Student Researcher Focuses on Russian Art

U.S. Fulbright Student Margaret Samu (pictured at right) climbs the stairs to the colonnade at St. Isaacs Cathedral in St. Petersburg, Russia. Many of the artists Samu studied through her Fulbright grant, where she conducted private independent study, contributed designs for the cathedral mosaics and icons. Samu is a doctoral candidate at the New York University Institute of Fine Arts.



Margaret Samu



Nicole Harper

SLOVENIA

Fulbright Student Conducts Research in Slovenia

U.S. Fulbright Student Nicole Harper (pictured at left) navigates through the Krzna Jama Underground Lakes in Slovenia. A doctoral candidate in Curriculum Studies at Georgia Southern University, Harper was awarded a Fulbright Student grant to conduct research on cultural immersion and perceptions of learning at the University of Primorska in Koper, Slovenia.

MOLDOVA

Fulbright Alumnus Named College President

In October 2007, Fulbright alumnus Dr. Robin Capehart was sworn in as President of West Liberty College in West Virginia. Capehart was a U.S. Fulbright Scholar to Moldova in 2006. He was affiliated with Moldova State University Law School, where he taught courses in public finance and conducted research on the property tax appeal system. He also presented public lectures, advised students and consulted with faculty and community leaders. Capehart is a former associate professor and director of tax studies at Marshall University. Capehart received his J.D. degree at the University of West Virginia in 1978 and his Doctor of Laws (L.L.D.) degree from Georgetown in 1991.



Robin Capehart

CZECH REPUBLIC

Fulbright Scholar Garners Media Attention



Miroslav Barta

Fulbright alumnus Miroslav Barta of the Czech Republic was featured in the Czech media in October 2007 for his breakthrough work uncovering the ancient Egyptians' use of sophisticated tools to build the Pyramids and other time-honored works of art. Barta, already the subject of a *National Geographic* story, credits his stay in the United States as a Fulbright Scholar from 2003-2004 for allowing him to network with leading archaeologists and to develop his theories. The "stimulating professional and cultural environment" is what impressed Barta most about his Fulbright at the University of Pennsylvania. The Public Affairs Section at U.S. Embassy Prague plans to have this Egyptologist lecture on his work as part of their Fulbright Speaker Series at the American Corner.

